

CLAIM SET AS AMENDED

1. (Currently Amended) A sealing structure in a direct acting type auto-by starter, the direct acting type auto-by starter comprising a body; a starting valve slidably inserted in said body; operating means for operating said starting valve; and a starting intake passage adapted to be opened and closed by said starting valve, wherein when said starting valve is operated by said operating means, said starting intake passage is opened by said starting valve to supply fuel into said starting intake passage and thereby start an internal combustion engine, said sealing structure comprising:

volume varying means, said volume varying means functioning to vary an inside volume thereof,

wherein the flow of gas in said auto-by starter due to pressure fluctuations in said auto-by starter associated with the operation of said starting valve is absorbed by said volume varying means, and

wherein an upper end of said volume varying means is sealed around a small-diameter portion of a stem of the starting valve.

2. (Original) The sealing structure in a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 1, wherein the flow of said gas due to said pressure fluctuations is adjusted irrespective of the ambient air.

3. (Original) The sealing structure in a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 1, wherein said volume varying means comprises an expansible bellows boot.

4. (Original) The sealing structure in a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 3, wherein said bellows boot is provided between an end portion of a stem of said starting valve and said body of said auto-by starter.

5. (Original) The sealing structure in a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 4, wherein said body includes a retainer attached thereto, and said bellows boot is provided between said the end portion of the stem of said starting valve and said retainer.

6. (Original) The sealing structure in a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 5, wherein said retainer includes a cap member connected thereto, and said bellows boot is secured between said cap member and said retainer.

7. (Currently Amended) The sealing structure in a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 5, wherein said retainer includes a fastening means connected thereto, and said bellows boot is secured between said

fastening means and said retainer, wherein the fastening means fits into an annular recess of the bellows boot.

8. (Currently Amended) A sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter, the direct acting type auto-by starter comprising a body; a starting valve slidably inserted in said body; an operating lever operating said starting valve; and a starting intake passage adapted to be opened and closed by said starting valve, wherein when said starting valve is operated by said operating lever, said starting intake passage is opened by said starting valve to supply fuel into said starting intake passage and thereby start an internal combustion engine, said sealing structure comprising:

a volume varying device, said volume varying device being capable of varying an inside volume thereof,

wherein the flow of gas in said auto-by starter due to pressure fluctuations in said auto-by starter associated with the operation of said starting valve is absorbed by said volume varying device, and

wherein an upper end of said volume varying device is axially sandwiched between a flange and a shoulder formed on an upper end of a stem of the starting valve.

9. (Original) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 8, wherein the flow of said gas due to said pressure fluctuations is adjusted irrespective of the ambient air.

10. (Original) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 8, wherein said volume varying device comprises an expansible bellows boot.

11. (Original) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 10, wherein said bellows boot is provided between an end portion of a stem of said starting valve and said body of said auto-by starter.

12. (Original) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 11, wherein said body includes a retainer attached thereto, and said bellows boot is provided between said the end portion of the stem of said starting valve and said retainer.

13. (Original) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 12, wherein said retainer includes a cap member connected thereto, and said bellows boot is secured between said cap member and said retainer.

14. (Currently Amended) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 12, ~~wherein said retainer includes further~~ comprising a fastening means for securing connected thereto, and a lower end of said bellows boot around is secured between said fastening means and an upper cylindrical surface of said retainer.

15. (Currently Amended) A sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter, comprising:

a volume varying device, said volume varying device being capable of varying an inside volume thereof;

a retainer secured to a body of the auto-by starter, said volume varying device being clamped around at least a portion of an outer surface of said retainer extending at least partially in an axial direction,

wherein the flow of gas in said auto-by starter due to pressure fluctuations in said auto-by starter associated with the operation of a starting valve of said auto-by starter is absorbed by said volume varying device.

16. (Original) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 15, wherein the flow of said gas due to said pressure fluctuations is adjusted irrespective of the ambient air.

17. (Original) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 15, wherein said volume varying device comprises an expansible bellows boot.

18. (Original) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 17, wherein said bellows boot is provided between an end portion of a stem of said starting valve and said body of said auto-by starter.

19. (Currently Amended) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 18, wherein ~~said body includes a retainer attached thereto, and~~ said bellows boot is provided between said the end portion of the stem of said starting valve and said retainer.

20. (Original) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 19, wherein said retainer includes a cap member connected thereto, and said bellows boot is secured between said cap member and said retainer.

21. (Currently Amended) The sealing structure for a direct acting type auto-by starter according to claim 19, ~~wherein said retainer includes a further~~ comprising fastening means connected thereto, and for securing a lower end of

Applic. No. 10/609,403
Office Action Dated: July 23, 2004
Amendment filed: October 15, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 0505-1205P
Art Unit 3747
Page 8 of 13

said bellows boot ~~is secured between said fastening means and~~ around said
outer surface of said retainer.